

**Times of Mass, Intentions and Services**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Year B –28<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

	<u>English Martyrs and Ss Peter &amp; Paul's</u>	<u>St Joseph's</u>	<u>St Bede's</u>	<u>Feast Days this week</u>
Sat 27th	<b>6:00pm</b> <b>Vigil Mass</b> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	<b>9:30am</b> Thanksgiving, birthday of Anaya Joseph	—	—
Sun 28th	<b>9:00am</b> Mass for the Polish Community	<b>10:30am</b> Michael Lally RIP (WJ)	<b>9:00am</b> Grace Fletcher RIP (EF)	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>
Mon 29th	—	—	—	<b>St Catherine of Siena</b> Patron of Europe <i>Virgin, Doctor</i>
Tue 30th	—	—	<b>9:30am</b> Intention of Vicky & Alan Charlton (PR)  <b>10:00am</b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	St Pius V <i>Pope</i>
Wed 1st	<b>9:30am</b> Chris Taylor RIP (AH)	<b>1:00pm</b> <b>Funeral Service</b> Anthony John Lowe RIP	—	St Joseph the Worker
Thur 2nd	—	<b>9:30am</b> Joan Colley RIP (WJ) <b>2:00pm – 4:00pm</b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—	St Athanasius <i>Bishop, Doctor</i>
Fri 3rd	<b>5:00pm – 6:00pm</b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  <b>6:00pm</b> Holy Souls	—	—	<b>Ss Philip &amp; James Apostles</b>
Sat 4th	<b>6:00pm</b> <b>Vigil Mass</b> Fr John Gibbins RIP (MF)	<b>9:30am</b> <b>Healing Mass</b> For the people of Gaza (James Jordan)	—	<b>The English Martyrs</b>
Sun 5th	—	<b>10:30am</b> Marcella Varey RIP (CH)	<b>9:00am</b> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>

<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b>		
<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May</b> <b>St Joseph's Legion Room</b> <b>after Mass</b>	<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May</b> <b>EMSSPP Confessional</b> <b>5:00pm – 5:45pm</b>	<b>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>St Joseph's Legion Room</b> <b>after 9.30am Healing Mass</b> <b>EMSSPP Confessional</b> <b>5:00pm – 5:45pm</b>
Or by Appointment – call 01642 806469		

**Bulletin Items:** If you would like a notice included in the next bulletin, please email [parishnewsletterstockton@gmail.com](mailto:parishnewsletterstockton@gmail.com) by **Tuesday evening** at the latest. Alternatively, post through the letterbox at English Martyrs and Ss Peter & Paul's Presbytery, Redhill Road, Roseworth, Stockton-on-Tees TS19 9BY. Please remember to add your contact details in case we have a query.

**PARISH OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM, STOCKTON**



St. Joseph's



English Martyrs and Ss. Peter and Paul's



St. Bede's

**PARISH NEWSLETTER**

**Sunday 28th April 2024**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter -Year B**

<b>Clergy</b>	<b>Parish Priest:</b> Fr Mark Millward <b>Assistant Priest:</b> Fr Oliver Keyes <b>Deacon:</b> Paul Hargreaves
<b>Parish Office</b>	<b>Hours:</b> Tuesday to Friday 10.00am till 2:00pm <b>Contact:</b> Gill Hall Tel. 01642 806469 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:parishfamilystockton@outlook.com">parishfamilystockton@outlook.com</a>
<b>Internet</b>	<b>Parish YouTube:</b> Stockton Parish Family <b>Facebook page:</b> @ParishFamilyStocktonRC <b>Parish website:</b> <a href="http://www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk">www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk</a> <b>Diocesan website:</b> <a href="http://diocesehn.org.uk">diocesehn.org.uk</a>
<b>Parish Contacts</b>	<b>St Vincent De Paul Society:</b> For anything SVP related please speak to one of our members or contact Alan on 07939 912354 or Mary on 07714 327665 or email <a href="mailto:PresidentC211509@svp.org.uk">PresidentC211509@svp.org.uk</a> <b>St. Joseph's Thornton Hall:</b> For any requests to book / hire the Hall please contact Philip and Cath Jackson direct on 01642 284770 Thank you

**Reflection 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

A vine is an extraordinary plant. It can grow to a huge size, spreading over a wide area, a whole garden wall or trelliswork, from one single root, and producing a rich sap which yields grapes at the end of countless little branches. And then there is the business of pruning: cut it back thoroughly on all its many shoots and tendrils, and it seems only more determined to grow thick and strong.

So the vine was the symbol of Israel, drawing from the Lord a sap which penetrated to all its shoots, and lovingly pruned by the gardener in a way which best encouraged its growth. The image was taken over by Jesus for his own community, the new Israel.

Pairing with last week's picture of the good shepherd, it is one of the greatest of Jesus' images. It perfectly sums up the two emphases of this Sunday's other two readings. The only source of fruitful energy for the Christian is union with and dependence on the life flowing from Christ. Without that, the branches wither and die; a trimming cut off from a vine no longer has any chance of life. The vine itself at pruning season looks stark, rough and suffering. It is in fact bursting with new life.

What bits of your life need to be pruned away now? What more can you do to express the flow of Christ's life within you?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB, from Wednesday Word

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) and Diocese's policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are David Mackintosh & Joan Rogers or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0191 2433305 or at [safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk)

## Parish News

**Sick and in Need of Prayer:** Please remember in your prayers the members of our parish family who are ill.



**Recent Bereavements:** Please pray for Brian Hedley, Anthony John Lowe and all those who have died recently. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Fr Mark would like to pass on his huge thanks to everyone for their prayers, cards and sympathy following the recent death of his Mam, Mary. God bless you all.

### PARISH FINANCES

**Parish Bank Account Details:** Please make cheques payable to DHN Stockton Our Lady of Walsingham.

If you would like to make a direct Bank transfer or set up a standing order, please contact the parish office for the new account details. Thank you.

**Offertory Envelopes:** If you have not already collected your new BOX OF OFFERTORY ENVELOPES FOR USE FROM 7th APRIL, please do so as soon as possible. Please let the Parish office know if you do not have any envelopes and would like some, if your address has changed, or if you no longer require a box. Many thanks.

**Northern Brethren Fund:** the annual collection for the NBF Sick & Retired Priests fund will remain open until 28<sup>th</sup> April.

**Stella Maris Apostleship of the Sea:** Mary and Hugh Ward who collect our donations for the Apostleship of the Sea wished to express their thanks at the generosity of our parish. It does not go unnoticed. Huge thanks for the constant supply of men's toiletries, socks, gloves, hats and treats. Thank you!

**Mass Intentions:** We have received a lot of requests, particularly at St. Joseph's, so if you would like a Mass to be said on a specific date, please give as much notice as possible to avoid disappointment.

**Fr Mark's Big Lent Walk:** the final amount raised for CAFOD is a fantastic £3,050. A great big thank you to everyone for your support. God bless, Fr Mark

**Holy Island SVP Vinnies Camp:** There are places still available for boys and girls in school years 5-7 (inclusive) at Holy Island Children's camp. A week's traditional holiday with meals and transport costs just £150! If you would like your child to have a week's holiday on Holy Island this Summer please visit our site <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/holy-island> If you know of any child who would benefit from this opportunity but may need assistance in paying, please email [holyislandapplications@svp.org.uk](mailto:holyislandapplications@svp.org.uk)

**News from Uganda:** After Easter Fr. Vincent began visiting families encouraging them to send their children for immunisations against Polio and Yellow Fever. Father says, "There is a government program but people are very superstitious about any modern medicine. But if the priest speaks they respond, so I will do this campaign for three weeks and as I go around I also call them to the farms and plant maize and beans. Please pray for Fr. Vincent and his people. Thank you.

**Roseworth Naturally Creative Arts and Craft Group:** Friday mornings 10am-12:30pm at Kiora Hall, Roseworth. Please see the copy of the 2024 Programme on the noticeboard at the back of church.

**First Holy Communion:** In the spirit of 'Reuse and Recycle', we are looking to set up a First Holy Communion Dress Bank at St. Bede's church, where dresses could be hired in return for a small donation.

If you have any dresses which you are willing to donate then please contact the parish office. Thank you.

**The Bread and Butter Thing:** Every Thursday at 1pm at Redhill Family Hub, Roseworth. Get your weekly groceries at a fraction of the cost! See the fliers in church or visit [www.stockton.gov.uk/TBBT](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/TBBT) for more information.

**Roseworth Big Local Advice Service** – in partnership with Citizens Advice, Roseworth Big Local has set up a new advice service to give free specialist and independent advice on benefits, grants, debts, finances, housing, energy costs, employment problems and much more. This can be arranged locally rather than travelling into town – call 01642 626135 to arrange an appointment. See leaflets in church for more information.

**Stockton Hope Community Larder Hardwick:** The larder is open every Wednesday from 11am to 1pm and is available for everyone. We also have a 'warm space' serving tea/coffee for free or just for a chat. Everyone at the Stockton Hope Community Larder thanks you all for your wonderful generosity.

**Holy Hikers:** are out walking again for the summer season of monthly walks. Contact David Mackintosh for details on 07913 021814.

**Public Lecture** - The renowned historian and former President of Magdalene College, Cambridge, Professor Eamon Duffy FSA FBA KSG will visit The Church of the Holy Name, North Jesmond Avenue, Newcastle NE2 3JX on **Saturday 4 May** at 11.30am to give his lecture Celebrity Priest: Robert Hugh Monsignor Benson and the End of the World. Professor Duffy will discuss Fr Benson's life and work, and that of his father who was Archbishop of Canterbury. All are welcome for this non-ticketed event.

**Proud Catholics - Annual General Meeting:** Do you identify as LGBTQ+ or are you questioning your sexual or gender identity? Would you like to attend a support group run by and for LGBTQ+ Catholics in the North East? We meet on the **third Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at St Andrew's RC Church, Worswick St.** Our next meeting will be our **AGM, on Tuesday 21st May, at 7.30pm.** We will be looking at the past year and sharing our thoughts and reflections on the future. Elections to the Committee will also take place. All are welcome. Refreshments will follow. Zoom link available, get in touch if interested.

For more information, phone Isabel on **07858 934457**, email [proud.catholics@yahoo.com](mailto:proud.catholics@yahoo.com), or visit our website [Proud Catholics](http://Proud Catholics)

### Job Vacancies

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following job vacancies:

Cleaner, St Cuthbert, Chester le Street – part-time. Closing date: 1 May

IT Field Engineer (two posts) Diocesan Offices, Newcastle – full-time, 9-month fixed term contract. Closing date: 6 May

Please visit [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk) for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301.

**Would you like someone to talk to?** A trained listener is available who can offer a confidential listening service to anyone who needs a listening ear. This could include issues such as loss, anxiety, loneliness or any other matters of concern. An initial phone call can be made with the option of meeting one to one or continuing on the telephone. Please contact the parish office on 01642 806469 or email [parishfamilystockton@outlook.com](mailto:parishfamilystockton@outlook.com) leaving your name and contact details and a listener will get in touch. 'Being listened to and heard is one of the greatest desires of the human heart'.

**St Joseph's Catholic Academy** have vacancies for a Classroom Teacher and a Teaching Assistant Level 3. See their website [stjosephsnorton.bhctet.org.uk](http://stjosephsnorton.bhctet.org.uk) or use the following links for full details:

[https://files.schudio.com/bishop-hogarth-catholic-education-trust/files/vacancies/advert/TA\\_Level\\_3\\_Advert-3\\_1.pdf](https://files.schudio.com/bishop-hogarth-catholic-education-trust/files/vacancies/advert/TA_Level_3_Advert-3_1.pdf)

[https://files.schudio.com/bishop-hogarth-catholic-education-trust/files/vacancies/advert/Classroom\\_Teacher\\_Advert.pdf](https://files.schudio.com/bishop-hogarth-catholic-education-trust/files/vacancies/advert/Classroom_Teacher_Advert.pdf)

## Prayer and Liturgy News

### Pope Francis Monthly Intentions April: For the Role of Women

This month's prayer intention is "that the dignity and richness of women be recognized in all cultures, and for an end to the discrimination they suffer in various parts of the world".

**A Healing Mass for Survivors of Abuse** is being held at St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle on Tuesday 30th of April at 12.05pm, which is the day nominated by Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales as the National day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Abuse. It will be celebrated by Bishop Stephen and will have Safeguarding Team Members available after the mass for anyone who wants to discuss issues. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**Corpus Christi: Eucharistic Procession with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** at Ushaw On **Sunday 2nd June**, Ushaw will be hosting a Eucharistic Procession with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, led by Bishop Stephen Wright, and starting at 3pm in St. Cuthbert's Chapel. Weather permitting; the procession will go through Ushaw's gardens, returning to the Chapel for Benediction. Teas and coffees will be available after the service. You do not need a ticket for this event, but please sign up on the sheet available at the back of church, to help Ushaw to estimate numbers. Please indicate if you are bringing a car: this will help Ushaw to manage car parking requirements.

**SPUC Pro-Life Chain:** Stockton Branch invites you to join them on our annual Pro-Life Chain to commemorate the 56<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the implementation of the Abortion Act, on **Saturday, 27 April 2024**. This event will be held on Marton Road, Middlesbrough, (opposite James Cook Hospital) from 11am – 12 noon. Please meet in the car park outside St Thomas More Church, Kirkdale Road, at **10.45 am**. We look forward to seeing you. If you would like any further information please contact Christine Pope on 07980 290432. Many thanks.

**A Year of Encounter:** With a UK general election due sometime this year, politicians will be looking for our votes. We have a responsibility as Catholics to make sure that parties commit to tackling issues such as poverty and injustice. Raising our voices and contacting parliamentary candidates as a parish community will send a strong signal to those standing for election in our local constituencies. *A Year of Encounter* is a joint initiative between CAFOD and St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), equipping Catholics to ask key questions of local candidates at the key moments. Please see [cafod.org.uk/encounter](http://cafod.org.uk/encounter) for more information, including online sessions on **Thursday 25th April** and **Saturday 4th May** to learn more.

**Sung Vespers (Evening Prayer) – Sunday 5th May 4pm at Ushaw**, please join us for Sung Vespers in St. Cuthbert's Chapel at Ushaw. Please note that this is not a concert performance, but an opportunity to pray together the Evening Prayer of the Church for the Sixth Sunday of Easter. As the format of this service may be new to some people, we will also be offering some reflections on praying Vespers as a group. All are welcome to join us for the service. No ticket is required.

### Readings 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Easter

#### First Reading Acts 9:26-31

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus. The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

#### Responsorial Psalm Psalm 21(22):26-28,30-32

*R: You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.*

1. My vows I will pay before those who fear him.

The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.

They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.

May their hearts live forever and ever!

3. And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.

They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,

declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:

'These things the Lord has done.'

#### Second Reading 1 John 3:18-24

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

#### Gospel John 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

*The Jerusalem Bible © 1966 by Darton Longman & Todd Ltd and Doubleday and Company Ltd*

### Thought for the Day

The world will not change as long as we remain the same.

*Fr. Werenfried von Straaten*